

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 230206

FOL RPT PORT AU PRINCE 3589 SENT ACTION SECSTATE, BRUSSELS,
KINGSTON, OTTAWA, PARIS, SANTO DOMINGO, MONTREAL & USUN NEW YORK
DTD 22 SEP 77

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 3589

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, CVIS, HA

SUBJ: PRISONER RELEASE: GOH STILL SEEKING DESTINATION FOR
EXILES

REF: A. PORT AU PRINCE 3587, B. PORT AU PRINCE 3555 (NOTAL)

1. GOH WAS EMBARRASSED AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 21 WHEN IT WAS
UNABLE TO EXILE TO FRANCE ELEVEN OF THE 104 POLITICAL PRISO-
NERS LIBERATED EARLIER IN THE DAY BY DECLARATION OF GENERAL
AMNESTY. THE ELEVEN WERE RETAINED IN CUSTODY OVERNIGHT
WHILE GOVERNMENT SEEKS COUNTRY THAT WILL ACCEPT THEM. JAMAICA
IS ONE POSSIBILITY. FRANCE, CANADA AND THE US ARE ALTERNATE
DESTINATIONS IF GROUP IS DIVIDED.

2. FRENCH, AS INDICATED REFTEL B, ARE DETERMINED TO AVOID
REPETITION OF EXILE WITHOUT PRIOR AGREEMENT SUCH AS OCCURRED
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WHEN 8 HAITIANS WERE PLACED ON AIR FRANCE PLANE FOLLOWING
DECEMBER 24, 1976 AMNESTY. HAITIANS, HOWEVER, HAVE ANNOUNCED
PUBLICLY THAT THE ELEVEN ARE TO BE "EXILED ABROAD" AND ARE
NOT WILLING TO SET THEM AT LIBERTY WHILE ARRANGEMENTS ARE
MADE FOR THEIR DEPARTURE.

3. EMBASSY HAS HAD INQUIRIES FROM FAMILIES OF THREE

PRISONERS WITH RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES ASKING
WHETHER US WOULD ACCORD VISA-FREE ENTRY OR EXPEDITE VISA
ISSUANCE SO THEY COULD TRAVEL DIRECTLY TO THE US. THUS FAR
WE HAVE RECEIVED NO SUCH REQUEST FROM GOH.

4. THE EXILEES WITH STRONG US TIES ARE:

A) PATRICK LEMOINE: LEMOINE'S MOTHER FERNANDE LEMOINE IS
A NATURALIZED US CITIZEN RESIDING AT 50-04 31ST AVENUE
(APT. 3B) WOODSIDE, NEW YORK 11377 (TEL 212-726-3319).
LEMOINE WAS BORN DECEMBER 9, 1945 IN HAITI AND WAS IN
POSSESSION OF VALID ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD A-14 842 413
(SAJ 11-02-66, SA-1).

B) ANDRE SERAPHIN: SERAPHIN'S MOTHER, THREE SISTERS AND A
BROTHER ARE LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF THE US. HIS MOTHER,
MADELAINE, ONE SISTER AND A BROTHER RESIDE AT 89-29
163RD STREET, JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11432 (TEL. 212-658-2181).
SERAPHIN NEVER POSSESSED AN ALIEN CARD BUT USED TO TRAVEL
FREQUENTLY TO THE US ON NIVS.

C) ALIX FILS-AIME: FILS-AIME'S MOTHER, GLORIA FILS-
AIME PAUL, IS A NATURALIZED US CITIZEN RESIDING AT 1621 NE
149TH STREET, NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA (TEL: 305-944-2646).

5. ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT PRIVY TO HAITIAN CHARGES AGAINST
THESE THREE, INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY DOES NOT
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INDICATE THAT THEY ARE INELIGIBLE FOR ENTRY INTO THE US.

6. WE HAVE NO EXPLANATION AS YET AS TO WHY FORMER INTERIOR
MINISTER JEAN JULME, WHOSE NAME WAS GIVEN TO FRENCH
SEPTEMBER 20 AS POTENTIAL EXILE, WAS NOT INCLUDED AT ALL IN
PRISONER RELEASE. IT MAY BE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS
RELUCTANT TO ADMIT THAT HE HAD BEEN REARRESTED FOLLOWING HIS
RELEASE LAST DECEMBER AND HAS QUIETLY SET HIM FREE AGAIN.
WE WILL ATTEMPT TO FIND OUT IF THIS IS TRUE IN THE NEXT
FEW DAYS.
JONES UNQUOTE VANCE

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